Mountain Weather Forecast

Lake District National Park

Forecast valid from 06:00 on Saturday 24 Dec 2022 until 23:59 on Sunday 25 Dec 2022

Forecast Issued on Saturday 24 Dec 2022 at 03:36

Confidence: High for occasionally unsettled but lowering confidence in the timing of worst of conditions due to the mobile nature of the weather systems.

Headline for Saturday 24 Dec 2022: Scattered showers for morning, heavier and more frequent from afternoon. Windy.

Mountain weather hazards on Saturday 24 Dec 2022

Blizzards No Likelihood	**Heavy persistent snow** No Likelihood	**Storm force winds** No Likelihood
Gales Low Likelihood	**Severe chill effect** Low Likelihood	**Poor visibility** Medium Likelihood
Thunderstorms Low Likelihood	**Heavy persistent rain** No Likelihood	**Strong sunlight** No Likelihood

Weather and chance of precipitation at 800m					
Time					
06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00
Light rain	Cloudy	Heavy Rain	Light rain	Heavy Rain	Heavy Rain
Precipitation probability					
30%	20%	40%	60%	60%	70%

Forecast for Saturday 24 Dec 2022

Weather: Brighter spells mixed with a few scattered light showers for the morning. Cloudier from afternoon with showers turning more frequent and heavier at times, bringing the risk of thunderstorms and hail to western areas of the Park. Outbreaks wintry at times across very highest peaks.

Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m: 60% becoming 25% from the afternoon

Low cloud and visibility: Good becoming moderate or poor in rain, very poor in snow and within cloud with bases quite frequently lowering 500m at first and becoming more widespread from the afternoon, particularly as showers push through.

Check our weather forecast every day to get the most accurate and up to date information
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Mountain Weather Forecast

Forecast for Saturday 24 Dec 2022

Height (m)	Wind Speed mean/gusts (mph) Wind Direction (blowing from)						
	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
900	31/36 SW	30/35 SW	34/43 S	38/47 S	38/48 S	34/45 S	32/43 S
600	25/32 SW	25/33 SW	30/40 S	30/42 S	32/44 S	28/40 S	29/41 S
300	7/25 SW	9/25 SW	13/32 S	10/31 S	13/34 S	11/31 S	12/32 S
Valley	5/21 SW	6/21 SW	13/29 S	11/29 S	13/32 S	13/30 S	12/28 S

Height (m)	Temperature / Feels Like (°C)						
	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
900	2/-6	3/-4	3/-4	3/-5	2/-5	2/-5	2/-5
600	4/-3	4/-2	5/-2	4/-2	4/-2	4/-2	4/-2
300	6/3	6/3	6/3	6/3	6/2	6/2	6/2
Valley	7/5	7/5	8/5	8/6	8/5	8/5	8/5
Freezing Level*	1100m	1200m	1200m	1300m	1300m	1300m	1200m

**Level above which ground is expected to be frozen/snow is expected to settle.*

Meteorologist's View

Gusts reaching 50mph across most exposed ridges and summits from late afternoon, bringing a severe wind chill here.

Forecast for Sunday 25 Dec 2022

Weather: It's a showery Christmas with outbreaks heavy at times, bringing the risk of hail and thunder to western most parts of the Park and turning wintry at times across the highest peaks.

Maximum wind: South to southwest mean 30-35mph with gusts reaching 50mph across most exposed ridges and summits, easing gradually from late morning.

Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m: 60% for any given time but little chance of extended clear periods given the showery nature of the flow.

Low cloud and visibility: Good becoming moderate or poor in rain, very poor in snow and within cloud with bases occasional from 500m.

Temperature: **Valleys:** Plus 3 Celsius increasing 8 Celsius for the afternoon
At 800m: Plus 2-3 Celsius
Freezing level: 1200m

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Mountain Weather Forecast

Ground Conditions Supplement

Date: Friday 23 December Location: Helvellyn summit at 11:10 Full report: This report comes with a health warning in that rain is now falling (during Friday afternoon) and forecast to continue this evening and overnight. This precipitation may fall as snow on higher ground so walkers heading for the highest peaks on Christmas Eve should expect, and be prepared to encounter, more snow than experienced and described today. The vast majority of the Lakeland Fells and paths are clear from snow. The little that remains lies above 750m, with most above 900m, in sheltered spots and hollows and on steep east and north facing aspects. The snow has undergone a thaw/freeze overnight and so was hard and icy. Although the snow patches are generally easy to avoid, this was made more treacherous above 850m by rocks being covered in verglas (thin ice). The summit plateau in particular was covered in verglas. At lower elevations, rocks underfoot were simply wet, greasy and slippery so it was definitely essential to concentrate on careful foot placement especially when attempting steep and exposed terrain (such as the Helvellyn Edges). The summit temperature around 11am was minus 1 degrees C and the windchill (what the temperature actually feels like) well below at minus 9 degrees, so full winter clothing (waterproofs, extra warm layers, hat & gloves), mountain boots and equipment including torch, map and compass and the ability to use them in potentially poor visibility such as low cloud are all essential to safely enjoy the fells. Walking poles to aid stability on slippery paths could also be useful. Walkers attempting steep and exposed routes on higher ground (such as Striding and Swirral Edges) should consider carrying an ice axe and microspikes/crampons as they were definitely useful today. Goggles are also recommended to lessen the sting of any windblown hail.
Temperature: minus 1.0 C, Maximum wind speed 22.1 mph, Wind chill: minus 9.2 C, Average wind speed: 14.6 mph
Issued at: 03:37 on Sat 24 Dec 2022

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